## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): A pharmaceutical composition containing the imidazole compound of claim 16, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable organic or inorganic excipient.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical preparation containing the imidazole compound of claim 16, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable organic or inorganic excipient, which is used as an agent for the treatment of impaired glucose tolerance disorder, diabetes, gestational diabetes, diabetic complications, insulin resistance syndrome, polycystic ovary syndrome, hyperlipidemia, atherosclerosis, hyperglycemia, osteoporosis, hyperuricemia, or hypertension, or skin disorders related to an anomaly of differentiation of epidermic cells.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method of treating a disease in a patient treatable with a pharmaceutical compound having hypoglycemic activity selected from the group consisting of impaired glucose tolerance disorder, diabetes, gestational diabetes, diabetic complications, insulin resistance syndrome, polycystic ovary syndrome, hyperlipidemia, atherosclerosis, hyperglycemia, osteoporosis, hyperuricemia, and hypertension, and skin disorders related to an anomaly of differentiation of epidermic cells, which comprises

administering to the patient the hypoglycemically active imidazole compound of claim 16 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claims 11-14 (Canceled).

## Claim 15 (Previously Presented): An imidazole compound of the formula:

$$\mathbb{R}^{4} \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{2}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{4}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{2}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{2}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{2}$$

$$\mathbb{R}^{6}$$

wherein

R<sup>2</sup> is a lower alkyl;

R<sup>3</sup> is chlorine;

R<sup>4</sup> is (1) a lower alkenyl optionally substituted by aryl or heterocyclic

group, (2) aryl optionally substituted by lower alkenyl, (3) lower alkyl,

or (4) heterocyclic group optionally substituted by halogen;

R<sup>6</sup> is lower alkenyl optionally substituted by phenyl, or lower alkynyl

optionally substituted by phenyl; and

L is ethylene,

where aryl is defined as unsubstituted aryl or alkyl-substituted aryl,

or a salt thereof.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The imidazole compound of claim 15 which is:

- (5) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((4-methylbenzene)sulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (6) (2E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(((E)-2-phenylethenyl)sulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (34) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((4-methylbenzene)sulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (35) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(((E)-2-phenylethenyl)sulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (41) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(1-pentanesulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (42) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((E)-1-penten-1-ylsulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (43) (E)-N-(1-butanesulfonyl)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-propenamide,
- (44) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(1-pentanesulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (45) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((E)-1-penten-1-ylsulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (46) (E)-N-(1-butanesulfonyl)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(2-phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-2-propenamide,
- (54) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((E)-2-phenylethenesulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (55) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((4-methylbenzene)sulfonyl)-2-propenamide,

- (56) (E)-N-(1-butanesulfonyl)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-2-propenamide,
- (57) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(1-pentanesulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (58) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((E)-1-penten-1-ylsulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (59) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((E)-2-phenylethenesulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (60) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(4-methylbenzenesulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (61) (E)-N-(1-butanesulfonyl)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-2-propenamide,
- (62) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(1-pentanesulfonyl)-2-propenamide, or
- (63) (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-((E)-2-phenylethenyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((E)-1-penten-1-ylsulfonyl)-2-propenamide,

or a salt thereof.

- Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The imidazole compound of claim 15, which is:
- (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-methylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((4-methylbenzene)sulfonyl)-2-propanamide,
- (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((4-methylbenzene)sulfonyl)-2-propenamide,
- (E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-(1-pentanesulfonyl)-2-propenamide or

(E)-3-(4-chloro-1-(2-chloro-4-(phenylethynyl)benzyl)-2-ethylimidazol-5-yl)-N-((E)-

1-penten-1-ylsulfonyl)-2-propenamide,

or a salt thereof.